

MAINE FARMER AND MECHANIC'S ADVOCATE.

PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM NOYES.

"OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN."

EZEKIEL HOLMES, Editor.

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Agriculture produces a patriot in the trust acceptance of the word.—Talleyrand.



MAINE FARMER.

State Agricultural Society.

We publish in another column, the remarks of the Editor of the Piscataquis Farmer, on the subject of a State Agricultural Society, and also, the remarks of the Editor of the Eastern Farmer upon the same subject. There cannot be the least doubt that a State Society placed upon a proper basis and supported by sufficient funds, would be of inestimable benefit to the State at large. But we must confess, when we look back to the last session of our Legislature, and see how we were treated by men sent there to listen to the wants of the community—men, chosen by the people to look after their welfare—paid from the hard earning of their constituents—men, with the oath of God upon them to faithfully discharge, according to the best of their abilities, the duties incumbent upon them as representatives, according to the laws and constitution, deciding a proposition to promote in a further degree the interests of Agriculture, and actually insulating its advocates by clamor and abuse on the floor of the House—we must confess that the prospect of further aid looks dark and cheerless enough. If farmers themselves will not feel interest enough in the honor and prosperity of their own calling to send men there, who will behave with common civility towards them when they humbly petition for a boon which themselves be public benefit—Nay, if even farmers themselves be public benefit—Nay, if even farmers themselves will not feel interest enough in the honor and prosperity of their own calling to send men there, who will behave with common civility towards them when they humbly petition for a boon which themselves be public benefit—Nay, if even farmers themselves shall be sent to represent their brother farmers, shall so far forget their own interests, and throw by all dignity of demeanor, trample upon the rules of common decorum, as well as spurn the farmer and his advocate from their presence, there can hardly be a hope that any thing which can be started of an agricultural nature will be listened to for a moment. And yet we do not despair. There is much virtue yet “extant” among the people. They only need to be told that their representatives disgraced themselves by conduct, which, if done by the urchins of a common school, would have drawn down the righteous infliction of the femele and the birch, and such men would have leave to stay at home in future. In order to awaken the people, they need only to be shown the picture of their representatives in legislature assembled, engaged in the tumult of coughing and clattering and shuffling the feet & making uncouth cries and insulting remarks, when a plain common sense farmer rises to offer a few arguments in favor of a measure, proposed by some of the best farmers and best men on the earth. As far as in us lies they shall see this picture as often as it can be presented to their view, and we will ring the story of the insult in their ears whenever fitting opportunity shall offer for us to do it. If the legislative hall is to be converted into a Jim Crow caravan, and the signal for the “clowns” to perform, is the calling up of a resolve for the benefit of Agriculture—they shall know it, and they shall read it till the whole caravan shall be driven from the political temple and sent into disgraceful retirement by the indignation of the insulted yeomanry of Maine.

And now to the question of a State Agricultural Society. There can be no doubt that a more efficient and much better system in regard to the promotion of Agriculture and the other productive interests may and ought to be devised and put into immediate practice among us. The system of county Societies, as far as it goes, is good—but there seems to be not so much connection, one with another, as the good of the cause requires. They are too much isolated, and from this cause alone the little which the State is obliged to pay to Societies, is not of so much avail, nor so promotive of good as it would be if a wider and more universal influence was extended over the whole territory. According to the present mode, the bonus of the State goes where there is already the most interest felt in the cause of Agriculture, while those sections which have not yet awakened to the cause still sleep on in their “dreamless sleep,” as it were, as torpid and as dead as woodchucks in mid winter. A few spirited individuals in some of the counties form themselves into a society.—They give their time, their talents, their labor and their money, and call upon the State for the pittance allotted them, as in such case made and provided by law. Now we want something that shall extend itself all over the State—that shall spread broad cast the benefits and the pleasures arising from these associations—that shall arouse the sleepers and bid them stand up like men, and honor and magnify their calling. A State Society might be organized and endowed in such a manner as to act like a parent to the county Societies. A fountain from which they could draw their portion of annual support and into which they could pour the results of their several actions—and these again arranged, collected, condensed and thence thrown into every town and village, and hamlet and corner and nook of the State, so that without any individual expense every man should receive a knowledge of the progress and state of improvement in all parts of the

State. In this way there would be a union among all the Societies, inasmuch as the State Society would form a sort of medium of communication, and connecting link between them all.

We hope that not only the several county Societies will take hold of this matter in their individual capacities, but that the farmers, throughout the State will move in this matter & petition the Legislature in a way and manner that shall induce that body to listen respectfully and grant cheerfully their request.

We give below the act of the State of New York for the encouragement of Agriculture. It will serve to show what has been done elsewhere.

AN ACT FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

[Passed May 5, 1841.]

The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. The sum of eight thousand dollars per annum, shall be, and is hereby appropriated for the term of five years, for the promotion of agriculture and household manufactures in this State, in the manner following, to wit:

[Here follows the list of monies allotted to each County.]

§ 2. When the N.Y. State Agricultural Society, and any county now formed, or which may hereafter be formed in this State, or the American Institute in the city of New-York, shall raise by voluntary subscription any sum of money, the president and treasurer shall make and subscribe an affidavit of the facts of the formation of such society, and of their having raised a certain sum, specifying the amount thereof, which shall be filed with the Comptroller of this State, who shall draw his warrant on the Treasurer for a sum equal to the amount of such voluntary subscription, not however exceeding the amount to which such county would be entitled, according to the apportionment aforesaid.

§ 3. The New-York State Agricultural Society and the several county agricultural societies now formed or which shall be formed in this State, during the continuance of this act, shall annually elect such and so many officers, as they shall deem proper; and it shall be the duty of such officers annually, to render an account of the sum received by them, and the manner in which it was expended.

I am sorry to say, that the apportionment of the money to each county, is not so well calculated as to give the most economic & profitable mode of competition; provided always, that before any premium shall be delivered, the person claiming the same, or to whom the same may be awarded, shall deliver in writing to the president of the society as accurate a description of the process of preparing the soil, including the quantity and quality of manure applied, and in raising the crop, & feeding the animal, as may be; and also the expense and product of the crop, of increase, in value of the animal, with the view of showing accurately the profit of cultivating the crop, & fattening the animal.

§ 4. The president of the State Agricultural Society, and the several presidents of the said county societies, who shall receive or expend any of the money here by appropriated, shall annually, in the month of December, transmit to the Comptroller a detailed account of the expenditure of all money which shall come into their hands under this act, and stating to whom, and for what purpose paid, with the vouchers thereof; and the said president of the several county agricultural societies, shall annually transmit in the month of December, to the Executive Committee of the New-York State Agricultural Society, all such reports or returns as they are required to demand and receive from applicants for premiums, together with an abstract of their proceedings during the year.

§ 5. The Executive Committee of the New-York State Agricultural Society shall examine all reports and returns made by the presidents of the county agricultural societies, and consider, arrange, and report the same, together with a statement of their own proceedings, to the Secretary of State, in the month of January in each year.

§ 6. The presidents of the several county societies, or delegates to be chosen by them annually for the purpose, shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee of the New-York State Agricultural Society.

§ 7. It shall be the duty of the county clerks in the several counties of this State, to cause notice to be given in one or more newspapers in each of their several counties, to be chosen by them annually for the purpose, to be given to the several county agricultural societies, and notice thereof shall be given at least four weeks previous to such meeting.

THE BLACK RASPBERRY A PREVENTIVE OF BOWEL COMPLAINT.—Brother Drew says that the Black Raspberry, or as it is sometimes called, Thimbleberry, eaten freely by children, is a preventive of bowel complaint, in the summer. We have no doubt of it. We raised quite a lot of them on our premises, which were eaten a little too freely by a good deal—by the children, some of a larger and some of a smaller growth and we have not heard that one of the scamps has experienced any complaint of the bowels or CONSCIENCE either.

Agriculturist's and Manufacturer's CONVENTION.

MR. HOLMES.—Since I wrote my address delivered before the Acernian Society in Monmouth Academy, I have been reflecting more deeply on the leading sentiments which I then advanced. If the argument I drew from the extent of influence which a proper direction of the social principle in man is calculated to effect, be correct, we may see at a glance why agriculture fails so far behind others in the public estimation. If we should look back through our political Journals, since the organization of our Federal government, we shall find that the leading topics of discussion relate almost exclusively to national politics.

In 1794, when I was twelve years of age and having become an owner in a political newspaper, my attention was called to the all absorbing topic of “Jay's Treaty,” with Great Britain. Besides this, the progress of the French Revolution, and the sanguinary war in Europe, were the topics of the principal newspaper discussions. After this the policy of France and Great Britain, toward this country, took the lead of all others, in the political strife of the day. At the close of the terrible conflict in Europe decided at Waterloo; these topics were merged in one of more immediate interest to this country; though unfortunately this was not agriculture. I allude to the question respecting a National Bank.

On the most careful examination I have been able to give this subject, I can find but little attention

given to the great foundation of national prosperity. President Washington did indeed recommend the claims of agriculture to Congress, and, apparently, with about as much effect as if he had read to them a chapter of the Arabian Knight Entertainment.

Let us now look a moment at the policy of Great Britain during the memorable period of which I have been speaking. Though engaged in a furious war, did she neglect her agriculture? No. We find her in the fiercest stage of the contest, with one eye watching the raging strife of war abroad and the other as intently fixed on her agriculture and manufactures. And now what is the result? It is this, she sustains with Herculean strength, a load of debt, enough to crush all Europe; and is still vigorously prosecuting her policy of Aggrandizement.

Though I cannot unqualifiedly applaud the policy of Great Britain; yet there are some things we may certainly learn from her, and these things I hope we shall not be slow to learn. And certainly the first great lesson is, to take care of ourselves. The Utopian notion of free trade must be exploded, or the prosperity of the nation will explode like a bomb shell.

It is of no use to point out these things without making efforts to improve our condition; I mean politically. And the first step is to get up steam to favor agricultural improvement. To get our leading spirits so much imbued with it, that an Agricultural Convention at the State House will be attended with as much interest as a political party caucus. It is of no use for our leading politicians to make professions of esteem for agriculture, to make themselves the objects of esteem for agriculture, whilst all their movements declare the falsity of it.

I said above, a steam in favor of agriculture. I mean manufacturers also. Let both classes, manufacturers and agriculturists, unite in this great work. And to give the best possible direction to our efforts, I propose, as a measure calculated to give our movements validity, a Convention of both classes at Augusta, on the third Wednesday of January next, at such place as may be found convenient, for the propositions, and taking such measures as shall be deemed proper to advance the great interest of the State.

Friends, there must be something done to avert the public mind to a consideration of the importance of this subject more than has ever been the case yet; or we shall be left entirely in the back ground, by our sisters of New England. Now do not say you cannot afford time to attend such a convention, when the politician can compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and after all, perhaps, make him a greater child of prejudice than before. The politician can postpone the funeral of a wife or child to attend an election, in which he feels interested; and I have even known a child to leave his suddenly deceased parent, before he got cold, to attend one. Surely then, we may if in health ourselves and our families, afford some time in making some efforts to dispel the delusion which rests on the public mind.

J. H. J.

Peru, June, 1842.

P. S. I do not undervalue commerce, the steam high enough in support of that interest.

A Beautiful Sight.

MR. HOLMES.—What is more pleasant than a grove of young forest trees, where all the underbrush and logs are removed, and the trees trimmed as high as a man can conveniently reach. Though such groves are not very common in this State; yet I observe them now and then as I travel about the country. Now it costs but little, where clusters of young trees are springing up near the road, in woody pastures, to trim them in this way, and how neat they look!

I noticed in Monmouth, what I called a white birch orchard, by the road side. It was a grove of white birches; which, though I feel a little prejudiced against that species of trees, made a very neat appearance. The work appeared to have been recently done, as the under branches, though cut, had not been removed; yet the trees, being trimmed, spoke more than volumes in favor of the neatness of the owner.

I noticed also a very beautiful grove of young wood near the dwelling house of Mr. John Morell in Winthrop. I know not who are the owners of either of the above groves, but I think such things are worthy of public notice, as examples of good taste; the general prevalence of which would be a credit to the State.

Besides the trees set out near the Academy in Monmouth, I noticed a row around a burying ground in that vicinity, and in some other places in that town near private dwellings. A more general attention to such embellishments I think would be a real benefit to the public. It needs, however, a considerable care in selecting, taking up, and setting out such trees, which would be amply repaid by their more rapid growth afterwards. I would suggest to such as wish to set out trees of considerable size, to select them the year before hand, and cut off about one half of the principal roots. These would throw out new roots, which might be wholly preserved when the trees were removed, and from their number would prove a great support to the trees the first summer after their removal.

J. H. J.

Peru, 1842.

Physical Degeneracy.

MR. HOLMES.—Your correspondent who dates at “Pleasant Point,” and writes on physical degeneracy, is a writer on one of the most important subjects we can possibly conceive. What if agriculture and mechanics should flourish without health? it is all of no avail if they are made sick, or if their lives are destroyed by physicians, as he intimates. He has written a long yarn on the subject, and even condemns surgical aid after Bonaparte's battles, &c., which shows that he, like most others, is ultra. Will he drive us back to the times with a clam shell? of course they could not eat their flesh, so as to need surgical aid. No doubt the aid and operations of surgeons have save many lives and are very necessary. But most of what he

says about employing doctors as we do, I believe to be correct; though I had not supposed that they had killed our Presidents including Washington and Lincoln. But I have for a long time thought it doubtful, whether they did not shorten more lives than they lengthened. The manner in which they get their medicine, & the way in which they compound them, I suppose. A physician wants some medicine, he goes to a merchant, who bought them in Boston, whom who styled himself an apothecary, the doctor leaves his memorandum with the merchant, for the medicine the boy in the store puts them up, whether the merchant or the boy knows anything of what they are composed. Nor does the doctor know what proportion of calomel, opium, or other killing substance he has got, away he goes among the girls, with such stuff. I would never have any one employ a doctor who was not a man of the strictest truth and morality, one whose word might be suspended upon. I see doctors employed, who never are a patient but what they will tell you that the brain or heart was diseased, when in fact he had poisoned his patient to death, his unknown stuff proved, as above hinted. About 55 years ago I came to Winthrop, then composed of what is now Rockfield and Winthrop. There was no doctor in town, the Midwifery was performed by a good lady by the name of Foster, and the number of the sick were much less in proportion to the people than now. The ladies cooked, spun, wove and walked to meeting, and travelled on foot many miles on a visit, & were generally strong & healthy. Still surgeons we needed, for such we had to send a great distance. I do hope we shall learn the cause of physical degeneracy, if we do not, we are destroyed.

The Washingtonians and Martha Washingtonians have done much to their praise. If doctors would study how to keep people in health, and lecture on that subject, much more might be effected, and for this they should be paid. S. W.

State Agricultural Society.

We have several times made the suggestion through different channels, that a State Agricultural Society, to which all our county societies should make a report, would be beneficial to the interest of our State. It would be a grand centre around which all county societies could rally, and its influence on county societies would be salutary indeed. Let it be composed of the officers of county societies and such others as may be thought proper. Let it meetings be held in the month of January or February at Albany, and let it adopt such measures as are best calculated to promote the interest of farmers throughout the State. They might annually publish a circular which would be useful and interesting, and in a hundred other ways exert an influence to promote the agricultural interest. It might devise plans to recommend to the Legislature, and under such an influence we can hardly believe that our representatives could disregard the wishes of the people. What say Dr. Holmes to making another effort to promote the interest of agriculture? Although according to your own telling, you, rather the friends of agriculture, were not only put down but jammed under feet and trod on. I am sorry to say, that the public mind is not yet so far advanced as to be won over to the cause of agriculture, and unless the farmers themselves arm and press their doings upon the consideration of the legislature, they may wait in vain for assistance. Has there not been much done to promote the interest of Manufacturers and the Mechanic Arts—and is not agriculture of paramount importance to these? The wealth of the State demands as much upon the one as the other, and one should not receive legislative aid to the exclusion of the other.—*Piscataquis Farmer.*

We have copied the preceding remarks from the Piscataquis Farmer, and concur entirely in the sentiment and advice of them. Such an institution as it contemplates, with power by law to exercise a supervisory authority, to a certain extent, over the County Agricultural Societies, and to require annual returns of their proceedings, to be incorporated into a general report, to be laid before us by the Legislature, would not only enable every citizen to take a connected, authentic, and productive view of the agricultural resources, products, and advancement of the State annually, but would soon grow into consequence, and exercise influence sufficient to force the Legislature out of its present apathy.

1742.—January 1. A little cooler, but a pleasant day. The whole week has been a spell of charming weather. 27. A charming pleasant day. 28. Much cooler. 29. A great deal of the Aurora Borealis. 30. A melancholy time. The snow is still on the ground raw and cold. 31. A fine day. 32. A charming weather. 33. A fine day. 34. A charming weather. 35. A fine day. 36. A charming weather. 37. A fine day. 38. A charming weather. 39. A fine day. 40. A charming weather. 41. A fine day. 42. A charming weather. 43. A fine day. 44. A charming weather. 45. A fine day. 46. A charming weather. 47. A fine day. 48. A charming weather. 49. A fine day. 50. A charming weather. 51. A fine day. 52. A charming weather. 53. A fine day. 54. A charming weather. 55. A fine day. 56. A charming weather. 57. A fine day. 58. A charming weather. 59. A fine day. 60. A charming weather. 61. A fine day. 62. A charming weather. 63. A fine day. 64. A charming weather. 65. A fine day. 66. A charming weather. 67. A fine day. 68. A charming weather. 69. A fine day. 70. A charming weather. 71. A fine day. 72. A charming weather. 73. A fine day. 74. A charming weather. 75. A fine day. 76. A charming weather. 77. A fine day. 78. A charming weather. 79. A fine day. 80. A charming weather. 81. A fine day. 82. A charming weather. 83. A fine day. 84. A charming weather. 85. A fine day. 86. A charming weather. 87. A fine day. 88. A charming weather. 89. A fine day. 90. A charming weather. 91. A fine day. 92. A charming weather. 93. A fine day. 94. A charming weather. 95. A fine day. 96. A charming weather. 97. A fine day. 98. A charming weather. 99. A fine day. 100. A charming weather. 101. A fine day. 102. A charming weather. 103. A fine day. 104. A charming weather. 105. A fine day. 106. A charming weather. 107. A fine day. 108. A charming weather. 109. A fine day. 110. A charming weather. 111. A fine day. 112. A charming weather. 113. A fine day. 114. A charming weather. 115. A fine day. 116. A charming weather. 117. A fine day. 118

to the quantity of seed per acre. This might have been the case. I left about half an acre, sown with wheat, unplastered. The difference might be seen at any distance from whence the crop was visible. That rolled in plaster shot into heads a week sooner than the other, and always retained a superiority. The skirts of the reapers were reddened with the rust of the unplastered wheat. But not a straw of that plastered was in the least discolored. Its buck wardness as to maturation, which was very perceptible, exposed the unplastered wheat to be attacked by the Rust."

This it may be said is a solitary fact, and should not be considered as establishing a rule—true it should not; but as the plaster here evidently operated to ensure exemption from rust, in this case, may we not at least hope that it would do so again, and especially as we are told by that eminent chemist Leibig that it has the capacity of not only extracting the food of plants from the atmosphere, but of assimilating with and giving it a fixed character in the earth, and that by the gradual decomposition which ensues, a regular and constant supply of nutrient is carried on; from which we may infer, that as the evil of a too rapid decomposition of the manure is prevented, that the danger of "excessive vegetation" will be obviated, when that peculiar condition of the atmosphere, which it is supposed induces rust, may exist. By the experiment of Judge Peters, it is proved, so far as a single experiment can do, that the rolling the wheat in plaster accelerated its seed fully a week, and to that he ascribes its exemption from rust, and certainly his conclusion is justified by the premises, as wheat in the same field, which had not been plastered, was that length of time later coming to maturity, and was rusted while the former was entirely exempt from that disease. Now, may it not be the power ascribed by Leibig to plaster, of producing a gradual decomposition of the food, and, consequently, of giving it out to the plants, that induces this greater maturity as vouches for by Judge Peters? We all know that regularity in the feeding of animals is just as necessary to their health and growth as quantity, and why may it not be the same with members of the vegetable kingdom? Reason and common sense would tell us that the analogy would hold good. At all events there can be no harm in making the trial.

While upon this subject it may not be amiss to refresh the memories of our readers, with respect to a very valuable paper we published in the last number of our 3d volume, upon the efficacy of "Charcoal as a Manure." That paper was from the pen of J. H. Hepburn, of Pennsylvania, and contained the following striking fact. Mr. H. in the concluding paragraph of his essay says:

Yours truly, JAMES BATES.
Norridgewock, Sept. 20, 1842. Me. Cultivator.

MECHANIC'S ADVOCATE.

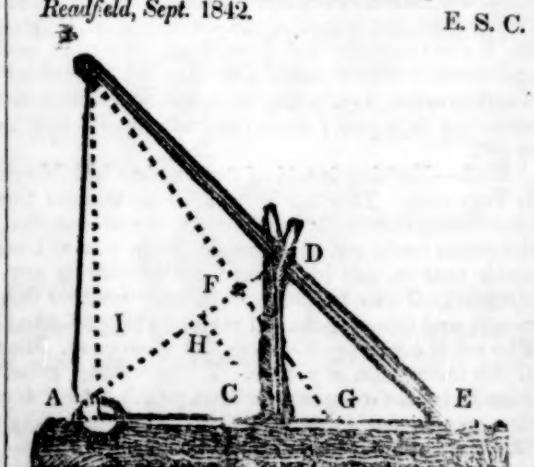
An intelligent class can scarce ever be, as a class, vicious, never, as a class, indolent. * * * The new world of ideas; the new views of the relations of things; the astonishing secrets of the physical properties and mechanical powers disclosed to the well informed mind present attractions, which unless the character is deeply sunk, are sufficient to counterbalance the taste for frivolous or corrupt pleasures.—Everett.

Answer Respecting the Well Sweep.

Solution.— $(A C^2 + C D^2)^{1/2} = A D$ or $(20^2 + 15^2)^{1/2} = 25$ = length of sweep above the crutch. Now it is necessary to find the perpendicular of the triangle A B D A, to do which we say, as the base is to the sum of the two sides so is their difference to the difference of the segments; making A D the base we have $25 : 57 : 7 : 15, 96$, then $(25 - 15, 96) : 2 = 4, 52 = F D$, then $A F = 25 - 4, 52 = 20$. To find H C we have by Euclid A D : A C : C D : C H or $25 : 20 : 15 : 12$; of course A H = $(20^2 - 12^2)^{1/2} = 16$. To find B F we have $(B D^2 - F D^2)^{1/2} = B F$ or $(25^2 - 4, 52^2)^{1/2} = 24, 576$. To find F G we have by similar triangles A H : H C : B F : F G = $16 : 12 : 20 : 24, 576 = 15, 96$, of course $D G = 15, 96 + 24, 576 = 39, 948$, and to find A G we have by similar triangles H C : A C : F G : A G or $12 : 20 : 15, 96 : 24, 576 = 25, 6$. It is now necessary to find the perpendicular of the triangle A B G A, which is B I, to do which we have $25, 6 : 71, 948 : 7, 948 : 22, 376 = 2$ = segments of segments of base; A G then $(25, 6 - 22, 376) : 2 = 1, 6312 = A I$, then the perpendicular B I = $(32^2 - 1, 6312^2)^{1/2} = 31, 9582$. I C = $20 - 1, 6312 = 18, 3688$, and to find C E we have B I = D C : I C : D C : E or $31, 9582 : 15 : 18, 3688 : 15 : 16, 2476$; then $(16, 2476^2 + 15^2)^{1/2} = 22, 112 = D E$, then $25 + 22, 112 = 47, 112$ = length of sweep as required.

Rondell, Sept. 1842.

E. S. C.



ANOTHER ANSWER.

Mr. HOLMES:—In the 36th No. of the Farmer, your correspondent E. C. S. has proposed a question, requiring to determine the length of a well sweep from certain conditions given. If I understand these conditions, the top of the sweep reaches the centre of the well when the bucket is down, the bucket reaches the bottom of the well, and when the sweep is up, the bottom of the bucket is at the top of the well, while it hangs perpendicular to the horizontal line joining the foot of the crutch and the mouth of the well, or the foot of the sweep and the mouth of the well. The foot of the crutch being 20 feet from the centre of the well, and 15 feet high, we have $\sqrt{20^2 + 15^2} = 25$ for the length of the sweep above the crutch, draw the line A. C. parallel to F. D. which will cut the line B. F. in A. then as the triangles A. B. C. E. C. D. are similar, their sides will be proportional, and it will be $17 : 25 : 15 : 22, 1 - 1, 7, \text{ then } 25 + 22, 1 - 17 = 47 - 17 = 30$.

J. C.

The barn is an L with a southern aspect. Each door is numbered. In many of the yards I saw boxes for every four cows, made as follows: Four slit-wood posts 5 feet long at each corner—four side boards 12 to 15 inches wide and six feet long, nailed on so that the lower edge is 20 inches from the ground, a bottom is laid over at this lower edge—from the top of each post there is a board about 4 feet long, coming down on the side board like a brace and nailed to it—of course there are eight of these. This forms a place on each side for one animal to feed and they cannot throw out the straw or hay which is all put in the box when the cattle are fed in the yard.

I have been thus particular because I do believe it an important arrangement.

Some raise the sugar beet for winter use. Now for the butter making. The milk is strained in pans or oaken tubs holding two pails full. Every thing is done in the cellar. The milk is not meddled with until it coagulates, when each day's, or each half day's milk is put in the churn with nearly an equal quantity of cold water in summer, and warm water in autumn or winter, to bring it to the proper temperature, which is from 55 to 60 degrees of Fahrenheit.

The churn is made in the barrel form, of oak; hooped with iron, with a wooden hoop three inches wide at top, in which the cover rests. For six to ten cows the churn should hold 30 gallons—and in that proportion for a larger number. I believe they rarely exceed two barrels, as in large dairies they prefer to churn several times a day, to the use of larger vessels.

Churning is never done by hand except for a single cow.

In small dairies it is done by a dog or sheep, on an inclined wheel, propelling the dash by very simple gearing. Those larger, have horse or water power. The motion can be communicated to the shaft and arm, elevating and depressing the dash a convenient distance from the moving power, by two wires. For a dog or a sheep the latter is preferred, both from economy and efficiency; a wheel 8 feet in diameter, is inclined about 22 deg. with the horizon, on which the animal is placed, having cloths

NOTE.—Another communication was received exactly like J. C.'s.—Ed.

The Tariff. (Concluded.)

I have not examined our last tax act, but in years past I have examined previous acts; and with the best scrutiny I could make, I could find but little to amend.

Here we see knowledge is power. Yes power indeed. It is powerful enough by a talismanic process to make poor David Diggins and other Diggins, pay old Capt. Shoveum's tax, while he all the time has the credit of it, and a very useful man in bearing the public burthens.

Now could the public mind be thoroughly enlightened, such people would soon be obliged to give up such processes of padding their taxes on to their neighbors. And not only so, they would soberly look into the subject of taxation generally, uninfluenced by the cry of political partisans.

As to the pretended inequality of the tariff or protective system, as it respects the laboring classes, I am unable to perceive it. They pay the whole tax in either case, be it more or less. That some arrangements of it might be more unequal on some classes of laborers than on others I admit; but that is a question which concerns ourselves as laborers.

It had been said, "the money collected for duties comes unequally from the pockets of the people, and ought never to be tolerated in a government where equal rights and equal protection are its design." And so then it would seem the design is eventually to change the whole system of raising revenue and resort to direct taxes altogether.

Now I have always been a laborer, first as a mechanic for several years, and then a farrier; and I think I ought to know something about the working of the two systems. I now with all the candor and sincerity in the world, aver that take one time with another, I can pay ten dollars in indirect taxes as easily as I can five in direct.

I suppose we all understand the process of both. In the case of the direct tax the collector comes with his bill and demands the tax, nothing else will do; for there can be no tricking with town orders in paying a U. S. direct tax. Here you must get the cash to settle, as you can, come it must sure as death. In the case of the indirect tax, the importer undertakes to pay the tax which he adds, and something more perhaps; to the price, and offers it for sale. No one now is obliged to buy and pay the taxes unless he pleases. It is true some articles of real necessity we may be obliged to purchase, but a very grievous burden to so poor a country. And though the number of them be, perhaps, double to what it was formerly, by reason of this present great distress, yet, in all times, there have been about one hundred thousand of those vagabonds, who have lived without any regard or subjection, either to the laws of the land, or even those of God and Nature. No magistrate could ever discover, or be informed, which way one in a hundred of those wretches died, or that ever they were baptized. Many murders have been discovered among them; and they are not only a most unspeakable oppression to poor tenants, (who, if they give not bread, or some kind of provision, to perhaps forty such villains in one day, are sure to be insulted by them,) but they rob many poor people, who live in houses distant from any neighborhood. In years of plenty, many thousands of them meet together in the mountains, where they feast and riot for many days; and at country meetings, markets, burials, and other like public occasions, they are to be seen, both men and women, perpetually drunk, cursing, blaspheming, and fighting together."

We suspect there must be some exaggeration in this striking paragraph; for, as Scotland did not, at the period referred to, contain more than a million of inhabitants, it is difficult to suppose, notwithstanding the peculiar distress by which she was then visited, that two hundred thousand persons, or a fifth part of the entire population, could be given up to the mendicancy and disorders described above. But the intelligence and good faith of Fletcher are unquestionable; and there can not be the shadow of a doubt, that the disorders to which he refers were of long standing, and upon the most gigantic scale, and that he did not believe he had in any degree overstated them. Indeed, so impressed was he by the idleness and crime then so prevalent, and by the enormities he had witnessed, that, to introduce good order and industry, he did not scruple to recommend the establishment of a system of prepal slavery, to which the vagabonds in question and their children should be subjected! The nature of the proposed remedy shows what the disease must have been.

The establishment of schools, and of a more vigorous and impartial system of government, happily succeeded in repressing these disorders. But the people of Scotland continued, till a comparatively recent period, without manufactures or trade, and were involved in the extreme of misery and destitution. The following authentic paragraph, extracted from the statistical account of the parish of Meigle, in Strathearn, contributed by the late Rev. Dr. Playfair, of St. Andrew's may be considered as applying to the whole surrounding district:

"Since the year 1745, a fortunate epoch for Scotland, in general, improvements have been carried on with great ardor and success. At that time, the state of the country was dark, beyond conception. The most fertile tracts were waste, or indifferently cultivated. The education, manners, dress, furniture, and tables, of the gentry were not so liberal, decent, and sumptuous, as those of ordinary farmers are, at present. The common people, clothed in the coarsest garb, and starving on the meanest fare, lived in despicable huts, with their cattle.

"The half-ploughed fields yielded scanty crops, and manufactures scarcely existed. Almost every improvement in agriculture is of late date; for no ground was then sown; no peas, grass, turnips, nor potatoes, were then raised; no cattle were fattened; and little grain was exported. Oats and barley were alternately sown; and, during seven months of the year, the best soil was ravaged by flocks of sheep, a certain number of which was annually sold and carried off, to be fed on richer pastures.

"The inactivity and indolence of farmers were astonishing. When seed-time was finished, the plough and harrow were laid aside till after Autumn; and the sole employment of the farmer and his servants consisted in

goods such commodities as we can most conveniently spare, we will take a portion of them, otherwise let your manufactures rest upon the wharves. But, Mr. Editor, I shall oppose sending large quantities of our corn to Europe—the British should be urged to take our beef and pork. Do you understand that a continued drain of corn is a drain upon our manure? Great Britain should not be permitted to drain off our manure nor our money. Some indeed may call this a trifle, but one great writer says that "trifles make the sum of human things." Indeed, Mr. Editor, I would gladly lecture our Congress men upon the important subject of political economy, but I fear we have some who in effect will hold forth this language—what do we care for political economy, if we can get up an excitement and carry forward our purposes?

THOMAS PHELPS.
Rumford, 1842.

Improvement in food, Clothing, and Lodging. (Continued.)

II. SCOTLAND.

The above statements apply only to the changes that have taken place in the condition of the people of England and Wales; but the change that has taken place in Scotland, since the beginning and middle of last century, has been still more striking and extraordinary. "At the periods referred to," says Mr. McCulloch, "no manufactures, with the exception of that of linen, had been introduced into Scotland. Its agriculture was in the most wretched state imaginable; and the inhabitants were miserably supplied, even in the best years, with food, and were every now and then exposed to all the horrors of famine. The details already laid before the reader have shown the extreme prevalence of outrage and disorder in England, in the sixteenth century; but Scotland was a prey to the same sort of disorders, so late as the end of the seventeenth, and the beginning of the eighteenth, centuries. In one of the discourses of the Scotch patriot, Fletcher of Saltoun, written in 1698, we find the following statement:

"There are, at this day, in Scotland, (besides a great many poor families, very meanly provided for by the church boxes, with others, who, by living on bad food, fall into various diseases, (two hundred thousand people begging from door to door. These are not only no way advantageous, but a very grievous burden to so poor a country. And though the number of them be, perhaps, double to what it was formerly, by reason of this present great distress, yet, in all times, there have been about one hundred thousand of those vagabonds, who have lived without any regard or subjection, either to the laws of the land, or even those of God and Nature. No magistrate could ever discover, or be informed, which way one in a hundred of those wretches died, or that ever they were baptized. Many murders have been discovered among them; and they are not only a most unspeakable oppression to poor tenants, (who, if they give not bread, or some kind of provision, to perhaps forty such villains in one day, are sure to be insulted by them,) but they rob many poor people, who live in houses distant from any neighborhood. In years of plenty, many thousands of them meet together in the mountains, where they feast and riot for many days; and at country meetings, markets, burials, and other like public occasions, they are to be seen, both men and women, perpetually drunk, cursing, blaspheming, and fighting together."

"The principal object of tillage was to afford straw for the winter support of the few cattle which the pasture (if such it could be called) maintained in summer. As they always overstocked, this was a difficult task; and the poor starved animals, before the return of spring, were reduced to the greatest extremities. Through mere weakness, often they could not rise of themselves. It was a constant practice to gather together neighbors to lift the cows or horses, or to draw them out of the bogs and quagmires into which they were tempted by the first appearance of vegetation.

(To be continued.)

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Mobocracy in Portland.

We are grieved to hear that they had a disgraceful mob at the city hall, in Portland, on the evening of the 30th ult. Mr. S. S. Foster, who we believe is an abolitionist, and if we mistake not a "come out" proposed to address the citizens, but was shamefully disturbed and the meeting broken up by the mob. We, of course, do not live in Portland, and having nothing to do with its police or municipal affairs, but we have a great regard for the honor and the reputation of the State, of New England, nay, of the whole nation, and feel most keenly the injury and insult of such proceedings. We regard with reverence—we had almost said, holy reverence, the great magna charta of our rights, baptized as it was by the best blood that ever gushed from the heart of America—the sacred right of petition and of free discussion. No matter what the subject—no matter who the speaker—he has a right so long as he keeps himself within the rules of propriety and decency, to speak and to proclaim his views and his opinions, and if we do not like them we have the right to leave him in peace, or stay and combat his arguments by arguments in return. But this bullying—swearing, tar and feather, rotten egg system of putting a man down is beneath civilization, nay, there is not a tribe of Indians on the continent, nor ever has been, that ever resorted to such utterly low, beastly, brutal means to put down a speaker. Their "talks" are always attended quietly and the speakers treated civilly. They would sooner "go to the death" than be guilty of such mean, cowardly acts as the mobs of the present are.

"We hope for the honor of Portland—we hope for the honor of the State that the rioters will be brought to justice and such measures be taken as will forever crush any more such detestable and disgraceful acts in future.

Correspondence of the Maine Farmer.

Franklin House, Boston, Sept. 26.
DEAR SIR:—After slipping through the puddle in the J. W. Richmond, I find myself in mediocris in this beautiful city of noise, bustle and confusion; a lady rubs me at the elbow, at every corner, because I will not give her the inside of the walk, and the Samboes, loafers and dandies bunt me in the face and tread upon my heels, because I keep the middle, and thus am grieved; but I have patience like Job, and have learned to rub shoulders to a charm. Opposite the Post office this morning, I found an old friend whom I was in pursuit of, by bunting him square in the face. I looked at him in full ire, and was about to say some soft words to him, when lo! I discovered who he was and learned that he took this way to make himself known; but my bunting did not end here. I drifted up street to Newall's splendid dry goods store, where all the ladies (and there are hosts of them here) resort for gewgaws, from a yard of tape to a \$500

shawl as their fancy dictates. I looked in and thought that I could see a thoroughfare leading from one street to the other. I entered, thinking to pass through and looking as I passed to the wonders and curiosities of the shop, I cast my eye forward and behind coming directly before, a pretty good looking man, though rather impudent; thinks I, I am in a fair way to try the bunting game over, and was about to speak, when to my utter astonishment I found myself bunting a mirror as large as the broad side of a barn,—and here I learnt that I had been rubbing me in the streets. I soon dropped my plume, and said to my friend "if you have any inquiries after me, tell 'em my name is Hains, and that I am Editor of the Scamp's Gazette & Loafers Chronicle, away down East, Maine."

I have since been in pursuit of the State Prison, and the walking man, Ellsworth, who is now walking on a wager of \$1000, in Cambridge; the former I found without trouble, with its inmates picking stone, driving pegs and making dippers; the latter I could not, by reason of the premature departure of the cars which run that way. The man is to travel 1 mile an hour for 1000 successive hours to win his bet; he has travelled 33 days and as yet is but little fatigued, legs swollen a little, has not been called but once for starting hours, and says that he shall continue some hours after his time expires, for the purpose I suppose, of drawing a great company and ending his travels in the day time.

We have every thing to please and divert us here, from the wonderful curiosity, the marmot at the museum, to the preachers of Millerism at the wharves where they hold forth, and where they have this day been stopped by riot and confusion. Wednesday there is to be a Brigade muster in the city—a great suffrage clam bake at Chepachet, R. I., both of which are much talked about. Friday there is to be a political meeting in Faun Hall, where the Secretary of State, Hon. Daniel Webster is to meet his friends and define his position, and publish to the world whether he is a Whig, Democrat, Tylerite, anti-Mason or Twaddler.—Old Faunell will be filled to overflowing.

The loafers and dandies here appear, if possible, more ridiculous than a down Easter does in trying to walk through a looking glass. They have high and long toed boots, coats like their grandmothers and hair like a Jew, and make a corresponding appearance in walking the streets as a shad would in climbing a barbe's pole. Shakespeare's *Hubertus* Jr. or some other great poet has described them exactly in addressing them thus:

Delightful task, with watchful toil
To bathe thy bidding hopes in oil,<

little village, with its spacious and noble harbor, gave to the strangers; the continued rush of well dressed ladies and gentlemen from this and the neighboring towns and villages to go on board the Missouri during her short stay here, the kind and unremitting labor of the oarsmen in conveying them from the shore to the ship and back, the politeness and pleasure manifested by the young officers and midshipmen into and from the boats, and their gallant attentions to them on board, and their charming band of music performing at intervals;—these and some other matters connected with them, which the poetic writer might duly paint, I shall not dwell on, but confine myself to things relating to the ship and her crew.

First, about the ship.—She is of huge size. The following are some of her dimensions: Length of keel, 200 feet, width or length of beam, 40 feet, depth of hold, 23 1/2 feet; estimated draught of water, 183 feet. Tonnage 2000. She is pierced for 22 guns, but at present carries only 10,—4 on each side and two in her bow. Her guns are enormously large, the two forward being 10 inch calibre, and carrying a solid shot weighing 128 lbs. The others are of 8 inch calibre, carrying ninety eight pound shot. Their strength is equal to the size of their shot. They are called Paixhan guns, from the name of their inventor. The essential difference between these and former guns is, that on account of their great size and strength, they can be loaded so as to carry a bomb or shell to an object by aim, the same as they do a shot; whereas, by the former guns the piece had to be elevated quite above the object, and the ball carried in a circumscribed direction. Thus, the shell could not be fired to any definite point; they were therefore confined principally to the siege and destruction of towns. Much less could they be employed as weapons of one ship against another. They can now pierce the hull of a ship with the shell as with the ball; and when it lodges there and explodes, the mischief is tremendous. It is not improbable that one such explosion would sink a ship, and destroy a hundred men.

Her guns when discharged make every thing near to tremble. The firing of them damages property on board, and is very destructive to the glass windows of a town or village; therefore the captain seldom orders a salute on entering or leaving a place. The Missouri is called a frigate. She has two engines, the power of both being equal to six hundred horse power. There are four boilers, each of which has twelve flues as they are called, so that the fire is carried through the immense cistern or boiler in so many different parts. Such is their construction that not more than two hours are necessary for getting the cold water into a state of steam sufficient for putting the machinery into complete operation; and it is practicable to get a sufficient steam on in one half of that time. Her common speed of travelling is about ten knots an hour; though when a smooth sea and ten knots an hour, the guide folks of Edinburgh were grumbling over the disappearance of the experiments in the premature arrival of her Majesty in their city, finding all manner of fault with the Duke of Buccleuch and Lord Aberdeen, for allowing her Majesty to land at eight instead of eleven.

There was a report current that the King of Hanover had died. This report, however, turned out to be premature. The King was dangerously ill, but not dead.

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The crops throughout Europe, have been large, and well harvested, and of most excellent quality.

The Constitutional publishes a long letter from Berlin, dated 26th ult., the object of which is to show that a serious misunderstanding has arisen between the King of Prussia and the Emperor of Russia. According to the correspondent of the Constitution the chief cause of this reported difference is the refusal of the Emperor to comply with a proposition made by Frederick William, for a general amnesty to the Poles, and for a modification of the existing constitution in favor of a regular German infusio[n] which is attributed to the influence of the Russian nobility on the mind of the Emperor.

Chemnitz, Sept. 1. (From the Leipzig Gazette.)

We have just received the melancholy intelligence that the town of Sayda was this morning burnt to the ground, with the exception of 20 houses. A report states that Tetschen is in flames, and several hundred acres of forest. They affirm at Dresden that they clearly saw the fire in the forest.

Harsau, Aug. 30. On the 20th of this month the town of Cierchanow was destroyed by fire; 114 houses and 24 of the large establishments are reduced to ashes; 300 families have lost everything. The value of the furniture destroyed is a million of Polish florins (167,000 rix dollars).

Rail Road disaster.—Total depravity.—The cars on the Rail Road, between Saco and Kennebunk, were thrown off last evening, in the woods, about three miles from Saco, in consequence of a large stamp having been placed on the track! It was not seen by the engineer, in season to avert the disaster. The engine was thrown off, and buried in the sand. The engineer was slightly hurt. The passenger car was next the engine, and contained fourteen passengers. This was also thrown off, and some were injured. The passengers escaped injury—although one man was pitched over the head of another—and others were considerably “mixed up.”

The passengers and mails were brought into the city in carriages, and arrived between one and two o'clock. The stamp used for this diabolical purpose was so large that one person could not easily have placed it on the rails.—Probably two or three were engaged in it.—No suspicion as yet centers upon any one.—A more diabolical act cannot well be conceived of—and it behoves the company to remove the miscreants out if it is possible. We know of no punishment too severe for the depraved scoundrels—and we trust they will be detected, and suffer for their villainy. Let a large reward be offered for their apprehension.

Sentence of John C. Colt.—This wretched man was on Tuesday, sentenced to death by Judge Kent. He manifested his usual indifference. On being asked if he should not be pronounced guilty, he proffered to the Court a paper censuring the Jury. He also requested the Court to spare him any of the usual remarks made by the Court when passing the sentence of death, as his case had to be brought before the Court of Errors. In reference to what he called his improper conviction, he also said that nine tenths of the community were of the same opinion as himself. The court then proceeded to remark upon the evidence in the case, when Colt broke in, and said in a bravado manner, that he had not intended to cast any aspersions on the Jury, and that there was not one of his life which he would not do again, under similar circumstances. Judge Kent then said, that after such a remark from the prisoner, he considered that it would be utterly useless for him to make any further observations, and he proceeded to sentence the prisoner to be hanged on the 18th of November next!

Senators.—The Age states that 19 Senators are to be elected, and adds:

In the Hancock and Washington districts, and also in the Aroostook district, (4) although not fully understood, the democratic candidates for Senators are undoubtedly the electors.

In Waldo, Franklin and Somerset districts, (6) are to be elected.

In Kennebec, as to one there is no choice; and whether the other two will take their seats, will depend upon the decision of the Senate.

Caption.—Under our obituary head will be found the record of the death of a daughter of Mr. J. H. Cornell. The child came to her death by playing with a *tooco* match. It ignited and set her clothes on fire; and before the element could be extinguished, she was so badly burnt as to cause her death after suffering intense agony.—N. Y. Com. Adm.

We saw a boy four or five years old playing with these matches in the street one day last week. A high wind was blowing at the time.—In 1841, in the midst of the intense drought we assisted in putting out a threatening fire, caused by a child playing with matches. Great danger to life and property is to be apprehended from this reckless indulgence.

A word to wise parents is sufficient—but what shall be said or done with parents who are—not wise?

tation received by the captain in behalf of its citizens,—and afterwards a call at Camden. She has since shown herself to the people of Wiscasset.

G. F.

Castine, Sept. 29, 1842.

Note.—We thank our friend for his interesting description of this Leviathan of our navy, and hope he will favor us with observations on other matters whenever his leisure will permit.

E.D.

WASHINGTONIANS ATTEND.

There will be a meeting of the *Washingtonians* of Winthrop and vicinity, on Sunday evening next, at half past six, at the Universalist Chapel; where a lecture may be expected by Rev. Mr. GUNNISON of Hollowell. The friends of temperance are requested to attend, and a special invitation is extended to the Clergymen of the neighborhood.

A. S. RICHMOND, Secy. W.W.T.A. Society. October 5, 1842.

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NOTICE.

There will be a meeting of Delegates from Wayne, Readfield and Winthrop Washington Societies at the Free Baptist Meeting House in Wayne on the 16th of October, at 6 of the clock in the evening.

All friends of Temperance are requested to present October 5, 1842.

Per Order.

LATER FROM ENGLAND.

ARRIVAL OF THE BRITISH QUEEN.—The Belgian government steam ship British Queen, arrived at New York, Wednesday morning, bringing London dates to the 10th, and Antwerp to the 7th inst.

The papers are singularly barren of news.

Queen Victoria was still touring in Scotland, and nothing of interest seems to have happened, either in Great Britain or on the Continent. The papers are busily employed in discussing and quarrelling over past events, especially the doings in Afghanistan.

The Queen was at Duppil Castle, on a visit to Lord Kinnowell, when last heard from. Duppil Castle is near Perth, just on the border of the Highlands. The guide folks of Edinburgh were grumbling over the disappearance of the experiments in the premature arrival of her Majesty in their city, finding all manner of fault with the Duke of Buccleuch and Lord Aberdeen, for allowing her Majesty to land at eight instead of eleven.

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POETRY.

For the Farmer & Advocate.
Lines written by M. F. Thompson, a few days before her death.

Fast ebbs the tide of life—one moment more
And I may gaze on the eternal shore.
Why do I dread that this short fluttering breath
So soon should freeze in the cold grasp of death?
Long have I changed upon life's changing scene,
Have marked its winters' cold & summer's green.
Behold my infant hopes and joys decay,
And deepening shadows darken o'er the way.
A little longer in this vale of tears—
A few short months, at most, a few short years;
What could it add to my small sum of joy
Compared to sorrows and to sin alloy?
Ah! nothing, nothing, by the past I know
How bitter's mingled in each sweet below.
No human chemist e'er can separate
Those parts united in the book of fate.
T'were better e'er, yet that fearful strife
I dread the struggle between death and life.
Alone, alone to sink in that cold stream
Oh! Star of Bethlehem cheer me with thy beam.
Middleborough, Mass. M. F. T.

On the death of Henry S. Holmes, of Kingston, Mass.
Oh ever honored, ever dear, adieu!

No more with pleasure can we gaze on you,
No more behold ones at the social heart,
Where oft thou'st added to the evening's mirth.

Thy manly form is cold in death's embrace;
Yet Time's rude finger never can efface
What faithful memory pains upon the heart,
When lovd ones here by death are called to part.

Here kindred hands his dust to dust consigned,
With quiet tears the solemn rites were said;

Here rest in peace, till at the trump divine,

The earth and ocean render up their dead.

Fond parents wept in anguish o'er thy bier,
Brothers and sisters shed affliction's tear;
But may they feel to kiss the chastening rod.
And bless the hand that took thee home to God.

You have committed an act of great indiscretion, Harry, it is true, but I cannot see any reason for such self-reproach; Helen is old enough to judge prudently for herself, and she is fully aware of your pecuniary circumstances.

Yes, but Helen is one of the most unworthy creatures in existence; she has no idea of poverty or privation, no knowledge of the struggles which must be made by the young and poor American; she would marry me tomorrow if I were to express such a wish, because she relies implicitly upon my judgment and I will not subject either her or myself to the miseries of a straitened fortune. I must find some short-cut to the temple of Plutus—some rapid means of winning gold, and the pleasures of intellectual life must be relinquished for the pursuits of commerce.

But why not complete your collegiate course before adopting any future vocation?

Because I should be obliged to sacrifice a whole year, Frank. No, if I must relinquish my hopes of fame—if I must leave to others the glorious chariot-race, while I wrestle and sweat in the dusty arena, let the strife begin at once.

If Helen loves you, Harry, she will cheerfully submit to any delay which circumstances may demand, and even share your narrow means, if success should be denied.

What a philosophic remark! pray how long is it since you turned moralist?

Moments often do the work of years, Frank. A sense of our duties and responsibilities, usually dawns slowly upon the soul, like the gradual unfolding of day-light to the sleeper, but sometimes it flashes suddenly and startlingly upon us, even as the lightning, which reveals his hazardous mountain-path to the benighted traveller.

Upon my word, Harry, you soar an eagle's flight above my humble comprehension. What has happened to you since yesterday?

Much, Frank; enough, in fact, to change all my future plans of life.

You speak in riddles, my good fellow?

I am going to quit college, Frank.

Quit college, Harry! you jest, surely.

In sober truth, I have decided to relinquish my studies, and try my fortune in the world of trade.

Are you mad, Harry, to abandon such a career as lies before you in professional life? and, to come nearer to present prospects, how can you bear to withdraw from the scene of your scholastic labors, after three years of hard study, when the reward of your talents and industry is just within your grasp? You are not—you cannot be serious?

I knew you would be surprised, Frank; but I have something else to tell you, which will astonish you still more. You know how long I have admired Helen Hazlehurst, and how greatly her intimacy with my sisters, has aided me in obtaining an accurate knowledge of her character. She is one of those sweet, gentle creatures, who, tho' unfitted to dazzle in society, cannot fail to inspire affection in the hearts of those who behold her in the domestic circle. I have long loved her earnestly and tenderly, but scarcely conscious of the strength of my own feelings, I have never spoken to her on the subject; until betrayed by circumstance, 'that unsightly god,'—Yesterday, a large party, among whom were Helen and myself, set out to ride, and we were all as merry as youth and healthful exercise could make us. As we entered the woods, the rest of the gay troop were considerably in advance of us, and while they cantered along the main road, I caught the bridle of Helen's horse, and turned into a by-path which met the road two miles beyond. I know not what impulse prompted me to the freak; it was a mere frolic, for I certainly had no idea of the consequences which were to result from it. Somehow or other we seemed to grow less mirthful when we found ourselves alone in the green-wood. The sunset hour lent its softening influence to our feelings we watched the beams of golden light which fell between the gnarled trunks of the old trees tingling here & there, a branch with its gorgeous hues and throwing a rich glow on the velvet-like turf, until we became silent & almost saddened by overpowering emotion. The quiet of the place, unbroken save by the trampling of our horses, or the whizzing of a bird above our heads—the loneliness of nature in her wildness, and the soft breath of the summer air, all contributed to subdue our hearts. At such a moment, mirth seemed sacrilege. Helen had never looked more beautiful perhaps her conscious heart leant a deeper flush to her cheek, and a softer sparkle to her eye, for she seemed to grow more and more lovely, the longer I gazed upon her sweet face, I knew not how it hap-

nened, Frank—I was excited—bewildered—but I remember, that I gave vehement utterance to the emotions which oppressed me. Those words, which heart resounds to heart, and never spoken in vain, were breathed into the ear of the agitated girl, and that hour witnessed our betrothal. I cannot describe to you the intoxicating happiness of that moment. It seemed to me a dream, and yet, as I clasped the hand of the gentle and confiding creature, I felt that it was indeed a blessed reality.

Nothing could be more unpremeditated than this avowal, and perhaps you will say, nothing could have been more indiscreet, but when you pass through a similar trial, Frank, you will better understand the force of the temptation. That hour decided my future destiny. I went forth a light-hearted boy, to whom life was, as yet, but a scene of enjoyment and preparation for future struggle I returned laden with the responsibilities of manhood, for I had taken into my keeping the heart and happiness of a fellow being. I was very happy, Frank—and yet, to you, as to a second conscience, I may disclose the after conflict of my heart. In the deep silence of night, when the voice of passion was stilled, and the language of wisdom made itself heard in my soul, I was conscious that I had committed a great error. What right had I, with my character, as yet, uniformed by circumstances, my position in society, is yet, undefined, my fortunes uncertain, my education incomplete—what right had I to assume the voluntary guardianship of a young and innocent girl, whose ignorance of the world placed her entirely under my guidance? Years must elapse before I can claim the hand which she has plighted to me: to wait for it to me—of patient suspense for her. My very love has taught me the selflessness of my conduct. In the very watches of the past night, I have learned—what years are sometimes too short to teach—how fearful are the responsibilities of him who presumes to be his brother's keeper.

You have committed an act of great indiscretion, Harry, it is true, but I cannot see any reason for such self-reproach; Helen is old enough to judge prudently for herself, and she is fully aware of your pecuniary circumstances.

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If Helen loves you, Harry, she will cheerfully submit to any delay which circumstances may demand, and even share your narrow means, if success should be denied.

Never would I subject a wife to all the privations which must be the lot of poverty. When I remember the patient toil of my poor mother, her uncomplaining industry, her close economy, nay, the household drudgery to which she submitted during my childhood—when I remember the keen calculation of expenses necessary in our little family, and the lavish attention to wearisome duties which my father was compelled to give return for to the miseries of a straitened fortune. I must find some short-cut to the temple of Plutus—some rapid means of winning gold, and the pleasures of intellectual life must be relinquished for the pursuits of commerce.

Yet your mother was happy amid all her trials; happy in the affection of her husband—in the welfare of her children—in the consciousness of her own usefulness.

True, because a woman will submit to every privation more cheerfully than she can to a dearth of affection, but the legacy of my miserly old uncle has materially added to her enjoyments in later life. No, Frank, had I kept watch and ward over my heart, I could have been content to scorn some Fortune's favors, while my eye was fixed on the glittering wreath of Fame, but now all is changed. I love and am beloved—I have been selfish enough to win what I cannot wear, and I must be content to hide my jewel within my heart until I can show it to the world in a golden setting.

The wisdom of twenty years could offer no arguments sufficiently cogent to overcome the impulses of mistaken feeling. Frank Hargrave was silenced if not convinced, and, after many conversations with his friend, resigning all hope of Harry's future companionship, he applied himself with redoubled diligence to the studies which were, to him, the preparation for a professional career. The close of the summer vacation saw him returning to his collegiate duties with renewed zest, while his friend, Harry Eustace, had already devoted his energies to commerce, and, chained to a desk in the dingy office of one of our merchant-princes, was fast acquiring the knowledge of business which is necessary to win a moderate degree of success. It was a weary change to the young aspirant for fortune's favor. Heretofore he had wandered in classic shades, until his soul became filled with images of beauty. To him, the labors of the intellect were as pastime, for he possessed the strength which could wield the powerful weapons of science, as well as the delicate perceptions which seize and enjoy the most minute charms in the moral and physical world. He was a poet, because, in youth, the language of enthusiasm was always poetry, and a scholar, because study has been the very element in which he lived. Now all such things were put aside. His books were laid by for ever, his verses were condemned to the flames, and Harry Eustace was only the active and useful clerk.

Helen Hazlehurst was all that Eustace had described her—a gentle, lovely, and loving creature, full of kindly emotions and innocent thoughts;—a being to be regarded with tenderness for the very weakness and helplessness of her relying character. Unfit for the glaring sunshine, of gay life, and less able to bear the cold blasts of misfortune, she was like some rare exotic which requires alike a refuge from the storm, and a shelter from the heat, ere its precious perfume repays the care bestowed upon its culture. Her beauty was of that delicate

character which seldom outlasts extreme youth. Her pure complexion was so faintly tinted with the rose, her lips were so brilliant of hue; her teeth so pearly white, and her figure so exceedingly slender in its proportions, that the eye of experience gazed on her with pity as well as admiration; for of such creatures does consumption choose its most frequent victims. Yet there was so much of the vivacity of life in her changeable blush, her sparkling eye, her elastic step, and her lithe form, that one forgot the frailty of her loveliness in its wonderful brightness. Her voice was one of unrivaled melody—it's every tone was musical and her song was like the warble of the forest bird. There was a frankness, too in her manners, a jocundness in her looks, and a free grace in every gesture, which could only result from the overbearing happiness of an innocent heart. Her unworldliness of character seemed to shed an almost infantine charm around her, and inspired an involuntary respect for the purity which knows no evil, and suspects no guile. But such traits, lovely and feminine as they may be, are rarely combined with strength of mind. Helen was all that men seek in the idol of their earnest youth—all that woman might ever be, if she could be hedged round by defence on all sides, to guard her from disappointment and treachery and sorrow. But alas! in a world like this, where freshness of feeling, like the dew upon the flower, is exhaled in the very morning of life, or, if still retained, must be hidden from view, like the honey-drop in the blossom, a perfumed chalice, something more is required of women than gentleness and timid reliance. Without some latent strength of character, veiled by sweetness and tenderness, woman is but a plaything, a toy, a puppet to amuse the idle hour of listlessness, but utterly useless in the days of darkness and despondency. How beautiful it is to love with the heart and the mind! exclaimed the gifted Madame de Staél; and only those who have felt the power of such a love, can fully appreciate the enthusiasm which prompted the remark. Helen Hazlehurst was not calculated to inspire such affection. She possessed all the qualities which are most lovely in childhood, or even in early maidenhood, but which unless connected with some looser traits, are apt to degenerate into commonplace feelings in later life.

For two years Harry Eustace continued to fill the station which alone could afford a competent knowledge of his future profession. His days were devoted to business, his evenings to the society of Helen, and, as there were many kind gossip ready to spread abroad the tidings of their engagement, it was soon understood that she was to be left to the exclusive attentions of her lover. The error so prevalent in society, which induces a girl, as soon as she becomes affianced, to seem entirely unapproachable to all others than her future husband—an error which tends to narrow life, poor Helen was utterly ignorant. An adept in every variety of needle work, thoroughly versed in every department of house-keeping, exhibiting the most elaborate skill in the labors of the kitchen, & a perfect model of economy and notability, she was considered by her family, a very pattern for good wives. And so she was, as far as such accomplishments go towards forming that most desirable of earthly blessings. But essential as these things are in a wife, there are other qualities quite as necessary to the attainment of that perfect unity of feeling which can alone secure domestic happiness. While the husband devotes his chief attention to active life, and the wife gives her time and thoughts to the thousand minute cares which make up the sum of household duties, there should be some spot of neutral ground where both may meet,—some green and shady nook, as remote from the turmoil of the world of business, as it is from the monotonous hum of the careless wheels which control the machinery of house-keeping. There should be other and looser subjects of conversation between them than consultations about the next day's dinner, or discussions about the last weekly bill. A woman's mind should be trained to those liberal views which enable her to understand and appreciate her husband's pursuits, even when she does not seek to share them.—The field of intellect should not be suffered to lie fallow;—if the soil be thin and poor it will at least yield a growth of fragrant flowers to charm the weary eye; and if it be capable of producing not only the perishings of house-keeping. There should be other and looser subjects of conversation between them than consultations about the next day's dinner, or discussions about the last weekly bill. A woman's mind should be trained to those liberal views which enable her to understand and appreciate her husband's pursuits, even when she does not seek to share them.—The field of intellect should not be suffered to lie fallow;—if the soil be thin and poor it will at least yield a growth of fragrant flowers to charm the weary eye; and if it be capable of producing not only the perishings of house-keeping. 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